

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

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NEWS RELEASE

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PATRICK BIANCONE SUSPENDED FOR SIX MONTHS Trainer also agrees not to seek any racing license until Oct. 31, 2008

LEXINGTON, Ky. (Oct. 17, 2007) – The Kentucky Horse Racing Authority (KHRA) today suspended the license of thoroughbred trainer Patrick Biancone for six months in a settlement of a case involving violations of state medication regulations. Biancone has also agreed not to seek a racing license in any racing jurisdiction for an additional six months, from May 1, 2008 to Oct. 31, 2008. The agreement will prohibit Biancone from entering any nonpublic areas of a race track until November 1, 2008.

Although his suspension does not begin until Nov. 1, 2007, Biancone has agreed to withdraw as the trainer of record for any horses currently under his care and will not be the trainer of record for any horses entered in the 2007 Breeders' Cup World Championships Oct. 26-27, 2007 in New Jersey.

The suspension follows an investigation into items seized during a June 22, 2007 search of three of Biancone's barns at Keeneland Race Course. The vehicle of Biancone's veterinarian, Dr. Rodney Stewart, was also searched the same day.

"The loss of a trainer's license, for what is effectively a one-year period, is a serious penalty and supports the decision by the state racing stewards," said William Street, chairman of the KHRA.

Biancone had appealed a one-year suspension ordered earlier this month by Kentucky horse racing stewards for possession of three sealed vials of Alpha-Cobratoxin, a Class A medication under the KHRA Uniform Drug and Medication Classification Schedule. The Alpha Cobratoxin was in a red bag in Biancone's refrigerator labeled with Stewart's name and phone number. The stewards also cited Biancone for possession of medications without proper labeling and possession of injectables.

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Biancone Release



The KHRA agreed to the six-month suspension based on mitigating factors. Those factors included no evidence that Biancone knew the Alpha Cobratoxin was in his barn or that Biancone had used or directed the use of Alpha Cobratoxin.

The KHRA will also have the authority to examine Biancone's financial and other records to determine compliance with the agreement.

During the suspension Biancone will be permitted to attend thoroughbred horse sales at Keeneland, except for the April, 2008 two-year-old sale. Biancone will be restricted to the sales barn and pavilion areas and will not be permitted in areas where horses are being actively trained.

Biancone, from May 1, 2008 to Oct. 31, 2008, will not receive any compensation from purses from racing. During the same period, Biancone can serve as a bloodstock agent, consultant or manager although he is not allowed in non-public areas at race tracks.

"We believe this settlement, and the termination of the appeal by the Authority and Mr. Biancone, is in the interest of thoroughbred racing in the state," said Street. "Mr. Biancone cooperated with the Authority during our investigation and we have agreed to terminate our investigation of him resulting from the barn search on June 22 at Keeneland."

Dr. Rodney Stewart has appealed a five-year suspension by Kentucky racing stewards for several violations of racing medication regulations. The suspension was ordered as part of the investigation from the June 22, 2007 barn search at Keeneland.

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